GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6185
ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017
Production of Pulses
Ering Shri Ninong;Parthipan Shri R.;Sathyabama Smt. V.;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao;Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of pulses in the country is sufficient to meet their growing demand of the country and if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to make the country self-reliant in pulses in the next few years;

(b) the details of projects undertaken by the Government to strengthen the basic research for the development of location specific pulses in the country during the last two years and the current year along with the achievements made and benefits accrued to the farmers thereunder;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide incentives to the farmers for opting to use technology in the cultivation of pulses and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there has been record growth in the farm production as well as in horticulture, poultry, dairies and fisheries in the country during the current year and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to impose restriction on the import of pulses in view of their sufficient production in the country during the said period and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) to (c): No, Madam. The overall production, demand and availability of pulses during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as below:

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(in Million Metric Tonnes)
Item/Period 2014-15 2015-16
Production 17.15 16.35
Demand 22.68 23.62
Imports 4.58 5.79
Exports 0.22 0.26
Availability 21.52 21.88
Sources: Directorate of Economics & Statistics (DES), Deptt. Of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MOAFW), Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI), erstwhile Planning Commission

ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Kanpur, three All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRP) covering major pulses and one Network Project on arid legumes are involved in developing location specific high yielding varieties and integrated crop production technologies. In addition to these, several ad-hoc research projects involving Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) & Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Institutes are in operation to carry out basic and strategic research. The details of the projects are given in Annexure-I.

Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) programmes, latest crop production technologies are being promoted through cluster demonstrations at farmers' fields including assistance for various critical inputs like integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management, water saving devices, farm implements/ tools and cropping system based training to farmers by State Governments and ICAR Institutes including Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

(d): At constant 2011-12 prices, the share of agriculture & allied sector in the overall Gross Value Added (GVA) of the country during 2015-16 was 15.4%. Out of which the shares of crops, livestock, forestry & logging and fishing & aquaculture were 9.3%, 4.0%, 1.3% and 0.8% respectively. The share of agriculture & allied sector in the overall GVA during 2016-17 has declined to 15.1%.

(e): Government has already taken a decision to impose restriction on the import of pulses and imposed custom duty of 10% on Arhar from 28.03.2017 due to record production estimated as per 2nd Advance Estimates to protect the farmers' interest. The production of pulses during 2016-17 is 22.14 million tonnes (2nd Advance Estimates).